

Testimony For HB1127

Honorable Senators

Please enter a favorable report for HB1127.

I support

- Requiring each county board of education to develop certain instructional content on water safety for public school students in the county; and
- requiring that the instructional content be offered to students in elementary, middle, and high school.

Anne Arundel County residents are fortunate to have so much water access via the Bay, rivers or pools. Every year we hear about some school age children drowning. Hopefully this bill would help prevent drowning or greatly reduce the frequency.

I am curious about the need for such a bill. All three of my kids had a drown-proofing class as fifth graders in the early 2000s at the pool near Annapolis High School. Does this program still exist?

I lived in New York State for 2 years and being able to swim was required to graduate high school. So in the summer between 6th and 7th grade, I took the required class. Perhaps, swimming could be made a requirement for graduation in Maryland. Unlike Maryland, I believe all high schools in New York had a pool, so the requirement was easier to accomplish.

Regardless, please enter a favorable report for HB1127.

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